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**Literacy/Science**

**December 5, 2015**

**Plants We Eat!**

**Rationale:**

Most young children will probably tell you that it would be gross to eat the flowers, stems or roots of a plant and would be surprised to find out that many of those parts are a regular part of their diets.

**Objective:**

* This elementary lesson plan on plants is a fun way to teach kids about plants that we eat
* Students will explore plants, including their attributes and growth cycle
* Task Description: Students observe plants in their neighborhood and classroom and discover how books provide factual information about real life things, like plants.

**Standards:**

* PK.RI.1 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about details in a text.
* PK.RI.10 With prompting and support, actively engage in group.
* PK.W.2 With prompting and support, use a combination of drawing, dictating, or writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.

**Materials:**

* Book: Eating the Alphabet: Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z by Lois Ehlert
* Six pieces of chart paper, Markers
* Magazines and grocery store ads with picture of fruits and vegetables in them
* Glue and scissors
* Blank books made out of two sheets of white or manila paper folded in half and stapled

**Procedure:**

* Ask the children which parts of plants that they eat. Most will probably say that they eat the fruits or maybe the seeds.
* Ask them if they ever eat stems? leaves? flowers? roots? If they say no, tell them that they probably do.
* Do they eat broccoli? It's a flower. Celery? It's a stem.
* Show them the book Eating the Alphabet: Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z by Lois Ehlert. Ask them what foods they recognize on the cover.
* Read the book, stopping to discuss some of the different fruits and vegetables in the book. Be sure to point out some of the different edible plant parts: Flowers - broccoli, cauliflower, Fruits - tomatoes, peppers, squash, Stems - asparagus, celery, Seeds - corn, peas, nuts, berries, Leaves - cabbage, spinach, lettuce, Roots - carrots, radishes, beets
* After reading the book break the class into six groups. Give each group a piece of chart paper labeled with one of the six plant parts on it.
* Give them markers, glue, scissors and magazines or grocery store ads. Tell them to find different plants of their plant part and cut them out and put them on their chart paper.
* They can also draw plants if they think of any and can't find pictures.  When all of the groups are finished, let them share their posters with the rest of the class. Hang the posters up and leave the magazines in the science center so that students can add to the posters if the want.
* Pick one student in each group to be the speaker of the group to present their chart paper with the parts of the plant

**Follow up:**

* Eat plants (Lettuce, carrots, apples, etc)

**Assessment:**

* As students eat the plants (Lettuce, carrots, apples, etc), ask them what part of the plant is the lettuce, carrot, celery, apple, etc. from. After students give responses, refer to the book to assist with answers.